



DOCKET NO: 9350-0136-0

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF :
KARLHEINZ DRUZ ET AL. : EXAMINER: KIM, SUN
SERIAL NO: 09/399,743 :
FILED: SEPTEMBER 20, 1999 : GROUP ART UNIT: 1723
FOR: AMINO ACID COMPOSITION FOR :
HEMODIALYSIS :

"RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE EXAMINATION
GROUP 1723"

AMENDMENT

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

In response to the Office Action dated January 8, 2003, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

REMARKS

Claims 1-20 are pending in this application.

Applicants would like to thank Examiner Kim for the helpful and courteous discussion held with their representative on March 18, 2003. During that discussion, the rejection over the cited reference was discussed.

The rejection of Claims 1-4 and 20 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Quarto di Palo et al., The International Journal of Artificial Organs, Vol. 1, No. 1, 1978, pp. 112-113, is respectfully traversed. Quarto di Palo et al. fail to suggest the claimed method.

Applicants submit herewith an executed Declaration Under 37 C.F.R. §1.132 from Professor Adolf Grünert. Professor Grünert is the Medical Director and Chairman, Institute